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Central Organisation, ECHS
Adjutant General's Branch
Integrated Headquarters
Ministry of Defence (Army)
Thimayya Marg,
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Delhi Cantt-110010

B/49770/AG/ECHS/Policy/2019

25 Nov 2019

IHQ of MoD (Navy)/Dir ECHS (N)
DAV, Subroto Park
HQ Southern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Eastern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Western Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Central Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Northern Command (A/ECHS)
HQ South Western Command (A/ECHS)
HQ Andaman & Nicobar Command (A/ECHS)
All Regional Centres

**CLARIFICATION REGARDING DEFINITION OF EMPANELLED HOSPITAL AND
CONSEQUENT HANDLING OF CASES OF TREATMENT TAKEN BY ECHS
BENEFICIARIES IN SUCH HOSPITALS**

1. Refer to the following:-
 - (a) Gol MoD (DoESW) letter No 24(8)/03/US(WE)/D(Res) dated 19 Dec 2003.
 - (b) Gol MoD (DoESW) letter No 22D(01)/2018/(WE)/D(Res-I) dated 25 Sep 2019.
2. It has been observed in the past that a number of beneficiaries undergo treatment at empanelled hospitals on payment, when such hospitals are no longer holding valid MoA or are under stop referral or refuse cashless treatment due to pending unpaid bills. Expenditure incurred by individuals in such cases were not being allowed for reimbursement due to lack of specific orders on the status of such hospitals for clearance of bills. Hence a case was taken up to issue relaxation to facilitate the payment in such cases.
3. It has been clarified vide Gol letter at Para 1(b) above regarding handling of cases of reimbursement expenditure incurred on treatment taken by ECHS beneficiaries in empanelled hospitals as under:-
 - (a) A hospital shall be considered to be on ECHS panel only when it has a valid MoA or it is not under orders of stop referral.
 - (b) If any hospital does not have a valid MoA or if is under stop referral and an ECHS beneficiary takes treatment in such hospital in emergency by making payment, the amount should be reimbursed to the ECHS beneficiary as per CGHS rates.
 - (c) If a hospital is without valid MoA or it is under stop referral and any ECHS beneficiary having a valid referral from ECHS polyclinic chooses to take treatment in such hospital, due to having taken treatment in the same hospital earlier as well, he should be allowed to take treatment in the hospital after making payment to the hospital and seek re-imbursement at CGHS rates.

(d) If a hospital is empanelled but due to huge pending of unpaid bills refuses to extend cashless treatment and an ECHS beneficiary takes treatment therein and seeks reimbursement, the same shall be allowed at CGHS rates. However, at the same time RC will send a proposal to CO, ECHS for disempanelment of the hospital.

4. Regional Centres may process cases of pending bills of above nature for sanctions as per the Financial Powers promulgated vide CO, ECHS letter No B/49782/AG/ECHS dated 06 Aug 2019. While sanctioning cases under Para 3(d), case for action against the hospital will invariably be initiated as per procedure laid out in Central Org ECHS letter No B/49717-C/AG/ECHS dated 05 Apr 16.

5. It is hereby advised that when referrals are issued by Polyclinics, beneficiaries may be advised to refer to the list of Empanelled Hospital under stop referral or invalid MoA, which should be displayed at the Polyclinic.

6. For your info and necessary action pl.

(Anupam N Adhulia)
Col
Dir (Med)
for MD ECHS

Copy to :-

DGAFMS-DG-3A	}	-	for info please.
DGMS (Army)/DGMS-5(B)			
DGMS (Navy)/Dir ECHS (Navy)			
DGMS (Air Force) (Med-7)			

UTI-ITSL	-	for info please.
153/1, Above Farico Show Room		
First Floor, Old Madras Road		
Halasuru, Bangalore		
Karnataka-560 008		

Internal

(Ops & Coord) Sec	-	for uploading the letter on ECHS website.
Claim Sec		
Stats & Automation Sec		